

## FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

**To Keep Furs.**—In laying up furs for the summer a tallow candle in or near them will obviate all danger from worms.

**MAD DOGS.**—To prevent madness breaking out in dogs mix a small portion of the flour of sulphur with their food or drink.

**To Destroy Moths or Carpet Bugs.**—Sprinkle plenty of powdered borax under the carpets before they are tacked down, then sprinkle plenty all around the edges of the carpet after it is down, and blow or shove it under the surface.

**To Obtain Good Drinking Water.**—A serviceable filter may be readily made as follows: Take a common earthenware flowerpot, about nine inches in diameter and ten inches in depth. The drainage hole is stopped loosely with a piece of clean sponge. A layer of about two inches of animal charcoal is first placed in the pot, then a layer of clean sand, upon which a layer of three inches of clean coarse gravel is placed. The pot can be set over an earthen jar, into which an abundance of pure water will filter for all drinking purposes.

**A Laundry Secret.**—The following receipt for doing up shirts will be found of use to many housewives: Take two ounces of fine white gum arabic powder; put it in a pitcher and pour on it a pint or so of water; and then, having covered it up, let it stand all night. In the morning pour it carefully into the drainage hole of a clean bottle and cork it and keep it for use. A table spoonful of gum water stirred into a pint of starch, made in the usual manner, will give to the lawn, either white or printed, a look of newness, when nothing else can restore them, after they have been washed.

**AMMONIA—A VERY USEFUL ARTICLE.**—We quote the following from competent authority: Put a teaspoonful of ammonia in a quart of warm soap suds, add a cloth in it and go over your soiled pants, and see how rapidly the dirt will disappear; no scrubbing will be necessary. To a pint of hot soap suds add a teaspoonful of the spirits, dip in your fork or spoon (or whatever you have to clean), rub with a soft brush, and then finish with a chamois skin. For washing windows and mirrors it has no equal. It will remove grease spots from every fabric without injuring the garment. Put on the ammonia nearly clear; lay blotting paper, and set a hot iron on it for a moment. Also a few drops in water will cleanse and whiten laces and muslin beautifully. A few drops in a bowl of water, if the skin be oily, will remove all uncleanliness and disagreeable odors. Added to a hot bath, it entirely absorbs all noxious smells, and nothing is better to remove dandruff from the hair. For cleansing hair and nail brushes it is equally good. For heartburn and dyspepsia, the aromatic spirits of ammonia is especially prepared; ten drops, taken in a wine glass of water, will give relief. For house plants, five or six drops to every pint of water, once a week, will make them flourish. It is also good to clean plant pans. So be sure and keep a bottle of it in the house, and have a glass stopper, as it catches away corks.

**To Exterminate Poultry Parasites.**—The poll-tick is prevented or got rid of by slightly greasing the heads of the chicks as soon as hatched. The same process repeated once a week, for about two or three weeks, will carry them over further danger. Lice can be got rid of by dusting sulphur well into the feathers of the birds. If the chickens are young and under the hen, dust the hen thoroughly with sulphur, and, provided the usual dust-bath be supplied, this treatment will keep the fowls clean, if repeated about a week.

If the gape-worm it is difficult to say anything positive, though, of course, prevention is best. In order to get rid of this pest, the surest way, when a yard is infested, is to remove the fowls entirely away from the contaminated ground. I know of a yard that was once infested for many years. One year the chickens were all taken across a brook to another part of the farm and not allowed to visit the old ground until too large to get the disease. No trace of the gapes has been seen there since then, although several years have elapsed.

Of the remedies for gapes there are as many as there are cures for the tooth-ache. If attended to in time the worms can sometimes be drawn out with a horsehair or thin feather. Carbolic acid inhaled by the chicks, either in a box or by holding the chicks over the acid heated hot in a spoon over a lamp, will also sometimes dislodge them; but when the worms get to the throat, where the windpipe branches, there is not much hope for the sufferer.

The house-mite or spider, that lives in the woodwork of dirty nests, is easily got rid of by cleanliness, whitewash or petroleum and fumigation. A good way is to saturate all the inside woodwork with crude petroleum. For scaly-leg itch, soak the legs with kerosene oil, holding the toes upward, so that the oil will run well under the scales. Two or three applications generally effect a cure. Intestinal worms are dislodged by a decoction of wormwood, or the leaves may be cut up and given in food, or a pill made of aloes may be administered; but these pests are rarely numerous enough to be of serious consequence. —Henry Hales.

**Medical Hints.**—For Whooping Cough.—Two-thirds castor oil, one-third syrup of ipecac. Dose: Half a teaspoonful from two to six hours apart. Shake the mixture well before using. It is almost infallible.

**Bites and Stings.**—Apply instantly, with a soft rag, most freely, spirits of hartshorn. The venom of stings being an acid, the alkali nullifies them. Fresh wood ashes, moistened with water, and made into a poultice, frequently renewed, is an excellent substitute—or soda or sal satuns—all being alkalies.

**To Prepare an Invigorating Bath.**—A teaspoonful or more of powdered borax thrown into the bath-tub while bathing will communicate a velvety softness to the water, and at the same time invigorate and rest the bather; persons troubled with nervousness or wakeful nights, will find this kind of bath a great benefit.

**A Pretty Dress.**—A New York letter says: A product of Havana is a pineapple gauze made solely from the fibers of that delicious fruit. This fabric can with great difficulty be procured pure, though there are numerous imitations—some very pretty. The one I refer to is of that delicate tint, a little deeper and richer than cream; it might be called the shade of fawn or woodcock. This is made over a glistening silk of the same shade, and is trimmed with knife plaits and ribbon loops. A jacket of fine plusses up the front is further ornamented by ribbon loops of the same tint.

## BUSHEL OF BULLION.

**The Fabulous Riches of the Sierra Ledges.**—Black and Barren Hills that Hide Profitable Fields of Gold and Silver—The Wonderful Northern Belle Mine.

Upon the heels of that greatest of all bonanzas, the Comstock lode, which has given to the world hundreds of millions of dollars in coin and bullion, came the discovery that all that section of Nevada about where Virginia City, Gold Hill and Carson are now located, was fabulously rich in the precious metals. These metals, however, existed in quartz ledges, requiring considerable capital to sink shafts, crush the ore and extract the mineral from the rock, and not till capital came did the efforts of the miners amount to anything whatever in comparison to the general result. Like every other mining country, the metal yielding section of Nevada is divided into districts. Of course there is considerable diversity of opinion concerning the productive qualities of various districts, but from present appearance the Columbus district in the county of Esmeralda, will within a very short time stand head and shoulders above any other now being worked for silver. Recent visitors to that region pronounce it a field of superior attraction for the geologist, the capitalist and the miner.

The Columbus district was discovered in September, 1864, by some Mexican prospectors. These were not the kind of men, however, to develop the mineral resources that abounded, and being possessed of little energy and less money, it is not surprising that their sagacity amounted to nothing. They, however, accomplished the purpose of drawing the attention of energetic capitalists to the district, and in October, 1865, Alonzo J. Holmes, a gentleman of great mining experience, with a plentiful stock of money and energy, discovered the rich silver mines known as Mount Potosi ledge and the Northern Belle lode, six miles west of the town of Columbus. The veins thus far developed are of surprising richness, and have netted their owner a princely fortune. The ore body is very large and of uniform thickness through all the veins, which vary from three and a half to eight feet in thickness. They run through metamorphic slate, with well defined walls, and seem to be traced for a distance of 2,000 feet without a break. It is hardly to be believed that the esoteric individuals who profess to look with contempt on the accumulation of wealth could behold unmoved the enormous riches contained in an ore body 2,000 feet in length, from three and a half to eight feet in thickness and which assays over \$100 to the ton for the entire distance. In comparison to it the fortune of the Count of Monte Christo would be a mere bagatelle.

The Northern Belle Mill and Mining Company was incorporated on the twenty-seventh of August, 1874, the principal works being located at Belleville. There are now in the mine five chutes and one vertical shaft, which has been sunk to the depth of 150 feet, thought it is being rapidly carried further down to a depth of 200 feet, in order to work the mine by machinery. The mine appears to be inexhaustible in richness, there being from three to fifteen feet of body ore, eight feet in the vein, solid. At present there is a daily average of 100 tons of ore taken, which also on an average \$75 per ton. Though the Northern Belle Company has only been incorporated three years, for the last twenty-six months it has disbursed \$1,300,000 in dividends to the holders of stock, an average of \$50,000 per month profit, over and above the entire cost of operating the mine, which goes into the pockets of the stockholders. In view of the fact that the mine is only yet partially developed, this is an extraordinary showing, and at this rate, the stock will soon stand at the head of the mining shares on the Pacific coast. To crush the ore there are two-twenty stamp mills, and these are kept in full service all the time. Up to the present time the total value of bullion extracted from the Northern Belle lode foots up \$4,000,000.

The cost of operating the mine amounts to \$60,000 monthly. This includes both mining and milling—that is the cost of extracting the ore and then the cost of separating the bullion from the ore. It further includes the pay roll of 360 men, the operating force of the mine, whose total monthly stipend, including that of the superintendent and all officers, amounts to \$37,120.75. Some idea may be gathered from these figures of the large amount of money required in mining enterprises in Nevada. The amount required to furnish the mines with the necessary mills to work the ore was \$325,000, a large fortune in itself, and yet this is but one item in the necessary expense of properly conducting a mine. Four or five fortunes have to be disbursed before the mine really begins to pay, and the business sagacity and enterprise of any man must be very great to warrant the expenditure of such large sums on what to the masses would appear to be merely a speculative venture. From all accounts Mr. Holmes, the principal owner and sole manager of the Northern Belle, seems to possess that business shrewdness and daring necessary for the development of such a mine. He left New York in 1850 for California, and since that time he has been engaged in mining ventures, first in California and then in Nevada and always with success. By those who know him he is looked upon as a remarkable man, destined at no distant day to stand at the head of the moneyed kings of the Pacific coast. —Philadelphia Bulletin.

**A Dangerous Wife to Joke With.**—The North Worth (Texas) Democrat says: Marshal Courtwright, of this town, thought of joking his wife. Arriving at home at a late hour, he entered the front gate, carefully closing it. Cautioning his wife to be quiet, he went to the door, and found her sitting on the sill of the window. On her fingers she had two gold rings, one of which he proceeded to take off. It being rather loose, he experienced but little trouble, and succeeded in the operation without waking her up. The remaining ring was much tighter fit, and in his effort to extricate it, his wife awoke, finding her hand grasped from without by some one whom she at once concluded was a robber. 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